

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

ORDER NO. R1-2001-67
ID NO. 1B97016RMEN

RECISION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
ORDER NO. 97-41

FOR

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
POINT ARENA AIR FORCE STATION
CLEAN CLOSURE OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SITE
32750 EUREKA HILL ROAD
POINT ARENA, CALIFORNIA

Mendocino County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. The United States of America, Department of Defense, Department of the Air Force (hereinafter USAF), owns property (located at T12N, R15W, S17 and 20, at Latitude 38(53' 26"N, and Longitude 123(32' 55"W) on which it operated a long-range radar station on Eureka Hill Road in Point Arena, California, as shown on Attachment "A". A solid waste disposal site was formerly located at the property, as shown on Attachment "B".
2. The USAF began operations at the Point Arena station in 1950. Prior to 1978, discharge of waste occurred on the site to an unpermitted and unlined landfill and associated incinerator. The USAF ceased discharge to the landfill in 1978.
3. On May 22, 1997, as part of the remedial action plan for the facility, Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 97-41 was issued to the USAF. Order No. 97-41 was issued to allow clean closure of the solid waste disposal site located on the USAF property.
4. Prior to the clean closure of the landfill, the solvent trichloroethene (TCE) was found repeatedly in a surface spring that originates at a location approximately fifty feet from the base of the landfill. The levels of TCE ranged from 0.9 (g/l to 7.4 (g/l. The spring is a tributary to Rolling Brook, which flows to the Garcia River.
5. From June 5, 1997 through September 30, 1997, approximately 825 tons of debris and soil material was excavated and removed from the property.
6. Since the closure of the landfill, the concentration levels of TCE in groundwater samples collected from monitoring wells and in the spring water samples have declined to non-detectable levels. Monitoring has indicated that the landfill removal was successful in abating groundwater and surface water contamination originating at the former landfill.
7. The USAF successfully completed clean-closure since all waste materials and affected geologic materials have been removed and discharged to an appropriate unit/location. The site was restored in a manner consistent with all federal, state, and local regulations. The site no longer poses a threat to water quality. Therefore, Order No. 97-41 and the associated Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 97-41 are no longer necessary.
8. Regional Water Board action to rescind Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 97-41 and Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 97-41 is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15061(b)(3).
9. The Regional Water Board notified the public of its intent to rescind existing waste discharge requirements and has provided an opportunity for comment.

10. The Regional Water Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this matter.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 97-41 and Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 97-41 for the United States Air Force, Point Arena Air Force Station located at 32750 Eureka Hill Road, Point Arena, California, are rescinded.

Certification

I, Lee A. Michlin, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on June 28, 2001.

Lee A. Michlin
Executive Officer